

INFORM ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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COUNTRY Bolivia
SUBJECT MNR Pre-Election Activities

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1. The Bolivian Movimiento Nacionalista Revolucionario (MNR) has clandestinely resumed publication of its propaganda sheet, Boletin del MNR, which is distributed by the party High Command among members. The bulletins for 25 February and 5 March announced the candidacy of Mario Diez de Medina, Hernan Siles Zuazo, and Federico Alvarez Plata for the office of deputy from La Paz. Source reports that these three leaders, who are in hiding in La Paz, are publishing the bulletin.*
 2. The MNR, confident of its ability to make a good showing at the polls in the May elections, is marshaling its forces so that it may repeat its successes of the municipal elections in Santa Cruz. An attempt is being made to raise 500,000 bolivianos for election purposes by the sale of coupons in 25, 50, and 100 boliviano denominations to party members.
- * Field Comment. The 25 February issue of the bulletin accused President Hertzog of inventing and then "discovering" the anti-government plot of 20 February to provide his government with an excuse for declaring a state of siege and for exiling MNR leaders. The 5 March issue pointed out that in face of the popular discontent with his regime, Hertzog had no recourse but to discover plots against the government, thus providing himself with an excuse to use extra-legal means against the opposition.

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